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**The Newport Mercury.**  
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## Poetry.

### THE CALL.

Thy night is dark: behold the shade was deeper  
In the old garden of Gethsemane,  
When that calm voice woke the weary sleeper,  
"Come! thou shalt not watch one hour alone with me!"

O thou, so weary of thy self-denial,  
And so impatient of thy little cross,  
It is so hard to bear thy daily trials,  
To count all earthly things a gainful loss!

What if thou always suffer tribulation,  
And if thy Christian warfare never cease;  
The gaining of the quiet habitation,  
Shall gather thee to thy eternal peace.

But here we all must suffer, walking lonely  
The path that Jesus once himself hath gone;  
Watch thou in patience through this dark hour only,  
This one dark hour, before the eternal dawn.

The captive's war may pause upon the galley,  
The soldier sleep beneath his plumed crest,  
And peace may fold her wing o'er hill and valley,  
But thou, O Christian, must not take thy rest.

Thou must walk on, however man upbraid thee,  
With him who trod the wine-press all alone;  
Thou wilt not find one human hand to aid thee,  
One human soul to comprehend thine own.

Heed not the images forever thronging  
From out the foregone life thou hast no more;  
Heart-hearted man! still art thou long  
For the dim line of the receding shore.

Wilt thou find rest of soul in thy returning  
To that old path that hast so vainly trod?  
Hast thou forgotten all thy weary yearning  
To walk among the children of thy God?

Faithful and steadfast in thy consecration,  
Living by that high faith to the end;  
Dedicated before God thy dedication,  
No far from him, because so near to Him?

Canst thou forget thy Christian superscription,  
"Behold we count them happy which endure?"  
What treasure wouldst thou, in the land of Egypt,  
Rejoice the stony water for secure?

For wandering soul! I know that thou art seek-  
ing  
Some easier way, as all have sought before,  
To silence the reproachful inward speaking,  
Some landward path unto an island shore.

The cross is heavy in thy human measure,  
The way too narrow for thy human pride;  
Thou canst not lay thine intellectual treasure  
At the low footstool of the Crucified.

O that thy faithful soul, one great hour only,  
Would comprehend the Christian's perfect life,  
Devised with Jesus, sorrowful and lowly,  
Yet calmly looking upward in its strife.

For poverty and self-renunciation,  
The Father yieldeth back a thousand fold;  
In the calm stillness of regeneration  
Cometh a joy we never knew of old.

Thou comest to the heavenly Teacher,  
Thy weary soul can find its only peace;  
Seeking no aid from any human creature,  
Looking to God alone for his release.

And He will come in His own time and power  
To see his earnest-hearted children free;  
Watch only through this dark and painful hour,  
And the bright morning yet will break for thee.

### BEAUTIFUL STANZAS.

\*I will lead them in the paths they have not  
known."—ISAIAH XLIII, 16.

How few who, from their youthful day,  
Look on to what their life may be;  
Painting the visions of the way  
In colors soft, and bright, and free.

How few who to such paths have brought  
The hopes and dreams of early thought!  
For God, through ways they have not known,  
Will lead His own.

The eager hearts, the souls of fire,  
Who pant to toil for God and man;  
And view with eyes of keen desire  
The upward way of toil and pain;

Almost with scorn they think of rest,  
Of holy calm, of tranquil breast,  
For God, through ways they have not known,  
Will lead His own.

A lowlier task than theirs is laid—  
With love to make the labor light;  
And there their beauty they must shed  
On quiet homes and lost to sight.

Changed are their views on life and fair,  
Yet, calm and still, they labor there;  
For God, through ways they have not known,  
Will lead His own.

The gentle heart that thinks with pain,  
It scarce can lowlier tasks fulfill;  
And, if it dared its life to scan,  
Would ask but pathway low and still.

Often such lowly heart is brought  
To set with power beyond its thought;  
For God, through ways they have not known,  
Will lead His own.

And they, the bright, who long to prove,  
In joyous path, in cloudless lot,  
How rich from earth their grateful lot,  
Can spring without a stain or spot.

Often such youthful heart is given  
The path of grief, to walk in Heaven;  
For God, through ways they have not known,  
Will lead His own.

What matter what the path shall be?  
The end is clear and bright to view;  
We know that we a strength shall see,  
Whatever the way may bring to do.

We see the end, the house of God,  
But not the path that leads to it;  
For God, through ways they have not known,  
Will lead His own.

## Agriculture.

**THE FARMER'S PROSPECTS.**—The farmers of the United States have evidently good prices ahead, and they should begin to make their calculations accordingly. It is now quite too late in the season to talk about increasing the wheat crop of 1856. The extent of that matter was determined weeks ago. But the corn crop of the United States is more important than that of wheat. Besides the corn and meal exported, we put the worth of a few millions of dollars into pork, beef, lard, &c, much of which comes from corn.

Between this and planting time next spring our farmers may calculate their chances for prices, and plant accordingly. There can be but little doubt, however, but that every species of grain and other agricultural produce will bring high prices for at least two or three years to come, and how much longer no one can predict with any degree of certainty. It will be perfectly safe for farmers to put in the coming spring all the corn they can manage. Spring wheat for home consumption may also be grown with profit. Barley, oats, peas, beans &c., will also insure good returns, and will probably supply the place of winter wheat in many families. Therefore, if our farmers are vigilant, and get all things ready for extensive spring and summer crops, the whole country will be greatly benefited and the Old World supplied with bread.

**THE POTATO.**—The potato originated in mountainous regions of the South, and therefore requires less heat than most other tropical plants, but cannot be healthy when exposed to protracted cold and moisture. Continuous propagation from the tuber must induce deterioration, and the effort to reinvigorate by stimulating the soil but tends to develop the vine, and to render the tuber watery and unwholesome. A loam soil is better adapted to this plant than either a clayey or sandy soil, especially when fresh and enriched by woody matter. Hilly grounds, with northern and western exposures, are also desirable. Large tubers, though not the most prolific in proportion, produce the best potatoes. It is well to plough and plant deep, except in heavy, wet soils. High hills are not good, because of the frequent heating and chilling to which they are subject, and wide planting is desirable, that the hills may not be too much shaded. It is best to plant early, and to give good time for developing. Frequent renewal from the seed-hill is, however, generally to be regarded as essential to the preservation of healthy plants.

**COAL ASHES.**—If farmers have not tried the benefit of coal ashes on their cherry trees, the sooner they do so the better. I recollect well, when a boy, of carrying the coal ashes from the grate and piling them around a little cherry tree, which was known by the family as the "little orphan," on account of its sprouting from the roots of an old tree which died, and the peculiar hard time it had in endeavoring to reach the stature of even a bush. The summer after the coal ashes were deposited around its base, it put forth vigorously, and in three years was quite a thrifty tree, heavily laden with luscious fruit. My father seeing the good results of the ashes, a wagon load was thrown around the base of each tree on the farm, and the effect was astonishing. Old trees that were fast decaying were resuscitated, and sent forth new branches, and bore fruit abundantly. Let those who have coal ashes test its virtues upon fruit trees. —Ez.

**MANURE HEAPS.**—If your compost heaps are under sheds and refuse to heat, either turn them in mild weather to encourage fermentation, or make holes in the top of the heap with a crowbar, and pour in large quantities of boiling water or boiling spent lye. The covering up of a few heated bricks in a manure heap, will often engender fermentation; or the burying a lump of unskilful lime in a compost heap, will cause fermentation, from the amount of latent heat rendered present during the slacking of the lime. If a compost is dry, add water, and the mass will soon be in fair heat; indeed, the pile should never be too dry, or the contents will fire fast, and thus much of its value be dissipated.

**GREEN-HOUSE.**—During severe weather keep the temperature as steady as possible. Never leave the sun-heat above 50° without air, and even at that temperature but a few hours without it. Fire heat should never be below 35°, nor above 45°. A collection of cacti requires 40° at all times. Do not keep the house without air at any time more than thirty-six hours; it is even better to use some fire heat, than to omit giving air. Hyacinths should be kept near the top glass.

**TRIM GRAPE VINES.**—This should not be delayed beyond this month. Vines trimmed in March do not have time to sear over their wounds and sometimes bleed badly.

## Selected Tale.

### A COUNTRY WIFE.

BY GEO. CANNING HILL.

THE MISS CALKINS—or as they were sometimes wont to call themselves, the Misses Calkins—were two young ladies, who never omitted to congratulate themselves that they had lived "in town." This more particularly, in contradistinction to anything that ever came from or went to the country. The Old Bally could not certainly be a worse place, in their fancy, than was the expanse of territory that stretched beyond the walls of their pent-up streets. Nothing, they religiously believed, ever came to much in the country; and nobody ever was anything, who happened to live out of town.

They were not even endowed young ladies, the two Misses Calkins, either in point of comeliness or genteel breeding. They were lankish, muddy complexioned, and had little grace to spare in their manners. Their social situation, too, was somewhat peculiar, and might possibly have been responsible for the unsettled and decidedly inconsistent character of their demeanor. They effected refined society, and kept the cheapest. Yet in doing as they did, they offered just patronage enough to the latter class, to assure them that they were capable of vastly superior social achievements.

They shuddered to think that Miss Barstow—the lady who had just arrived from New York, with an inherited fortune—should chance to see a rustic count mount the steps; and could have gladly laid hold of his very respectable ears, and with main strength drawn him into the hall, if by that means, their mortification might have been spared them. They never dared to speak of an acquaintance in the country to Mr. Heidebreck, the wholesale merchant, who had two or three times called, for fear the horrid syllables might jar on his delicate ear. And yet the fastidiousness did not betray itself in anything else. They had only laid their ban on the land that wasn't duly taxed by municipal corporation. It hardly mattered what a man was, after proving that he was at least mediocre, provided only he lived, moved and had his being "in town."

A green grocer, in town, was far before a gentleman from the country. And so deluded themselves. They thought country life must be so much mixed up with stables, and horses, and cattle, and ploughs; yet they lived almost directly opposite a livery stable themselves, and thought nothing of the inconvenience such a neighborhood would certainly offer to well-bred and at all sensible country people. Everything in the country was so very vulgar—they never thought of the word without unconsciously turning up their noses. And between vainly creeping after society in town and cutting it dead in the country, the two sisters Calkins made a pretty miserable life of it. They could neither raise themselves to a high bench, nor settle themselves comfortably down in a low one. And, always in a ferment, people should wrongfully interpret their social opinions, or mistake in respect to their social position, they were at heart looked down upon by one class, and hated by the other.

For all this, however, Mr. Caleb Calkins was quite another sort of person. He laughed at his sisters, when they did not vex him; and when they were unfortunate enough to do that, he was ungrateful enough to retort upon them his own and other people's opinions of their very fastidious notions. Mr. Caleb Calkins rarely split hairs with anybody. If he had an opinion any one could have it for the asking. And among other opinions that had become a part of the warp of his character, he really believed that all country people were not fools or clowns. And as to vulgarity of manners, he always said that there was vastly more of it in town than you could find anywhere in ten miles circuit about the country. He thought that simplicity and honest-heartedness always insured genteel behaviour, whether the intellect had been highly cultivated or not.

In this as in almost all other things, Mr. Caleb Calkins was unlike his sisters. Their influence over him was exceedingly small, and they went the wrong way to work to enlarge it; they taunted, and he stung; they put on airs, he maddened them with clever ridicule. No armor of theirs, that he could not pierce with his arrows. Yet to them Caleb was totally invulnerable.

He drove up to the stable one day, in an airy little one-horse carriage, and jumped out upon the ground. Taking his valise from the vehicle, he proceeded to cross the street to his father's house.

"There's Caleb!" muttered Susan, who was the elder of the two sisters. "The tone in which the syllables were given, was nothing by the side of the snarl look that curled in her countenance."

"Where do you suppose he's been?" muttered Charlotte in reply.

"Been! Been off into the country, of course!" said Susan laying a contemptuous stress on the word country, that was the best thing that could be got up of its kind.

"To worship at the shrine of some rustic belle," returned Charlotte.

"Yes; do you think he can ever be cured of his nonsense? Do you believe there's any hope of him?"

"I'm sure, I don't know," answered Charlotte. "I hope he's not going to mortify us with his country belle! I think he might not do just as he does. Why, he knows he could wait on almost any young lady of our acquaintance, and yet he prefers to go off and hunt up some rustic beauty. I wonder he will do so."

"It is strange," rejoined Susan; "but I don't know how we are to help it. And he's so obstinate, too! You might as well try to turn a stone in its opinion!"

"I know it," chimed in Miss Charlotte. "I only wish he knew how his own sisters felt about his visiting such people."

"And so do I," returned Charlotte. "That I do, indeed!"

"But even that might have no effect upon him."

"Just as likely as not."

"I don't care," said Susan, recovering her usual spirits. "I am going to tell him myself what a fool he is making of himself; and how he is mortifying his own family. If he don't care for the feelings of his sisters, then he can't live over and above happily with his wife."

"But do you know that he is off courting?" inquired the not yet satisfied Charlotte.

"Know it?" replied Susan. "Who is there that doesn't know it? Haven't I been questioned about it by Miss Sawyer and had it thrown in my face by Miss Thompson, and been obliged to confess it to Miss Norton? And ain't there a hundred others who would be glad to see us brought down by just such a thing as that? Just the thought of it—of Caleb's marrying a country girl! Why, it's absolutely preposterous! He must be out of his head!"

Something must be the matter with him," her dangling curls.

Just at that moment the object of their earnest animadversion came into the room. To see him, one would very naturally have thought it quite questionable whether he could even mortify such girls as his sisters. There was a wide difference between him and them, even, in the matters of outward appearance. They might have been rather a little proud, than ashamed of him.

"So you've got back!" exclaimed Susan, taking care to direct her eyes to another corner of the room.

"Yes, got back," said he. "How do you all do?"

"It's of precious little consequence to you, I should think, how we do, or how we feel."

"Why, what now? What's on the docket now?" inquired he, pausing in the exploring circuit he was making over the room.

"What's the matter?" replied Susan as she caught the burning eyes of Charlotte, "matter enough, I should think! You've got back from one of your country excursions?"

"Yes, safe and sound," said he.

"Yes," testily chimed in Susan.

"And is it for that, that you feel so bad?" he asked, his eyes gleaming with fun, yet his brain full of knowledge of the difficulty.

"Caleb," exclaimed she, "you know what I mean?"

"I am sorry to say that I believe I do," he calmly replied.

"It's the talk your visits into the country make, that mortifies us so. We might be somebody, if 'twasn't for being pulled back by just such things as this! Nobody will visit us, and we can't be asked anywhere, if—"

"If I take a ride out into the country occasionally!" interrupted Caleb. "Ha! ha! ha!"

"You needn't laugh about it," ventured Charlotte. "It doesn't make us laugh."

"Ha! ha! ha!" again rung from his clear pipes. "You will be out off from all society, if I indulge in a turn in the country! What an idea!"

"Country people are vulgar," said Susan, with emphasis; "and when people know that our acquaintance lies among them, they will have no more to do with us."

"No that's what they want," added Charlotte.

"I'm grieved to the heart about it, really," said Caleb, affecting uncommon seriousness. "I'm really grieved about it. I wouldn't be the means of denying you the benefits of really good society, for something of a consideration; and for I don't honestly think you can well do without them."

The girls looked at him as if they could have gladly delivered him over into the hands of the Spanish Inquisition.

"But I've got a bit of news for you," continued he, with the utmost nonchalance. "I'm going to be married!"

"Married! shrieked Susan, holding up both hands.

"Married!" repeated Charlotte, rolling up her eyes to the wall.

"Yes that's the word," returned Caleb.

"I was going to invite you both to the wedding; but you couldn't stand by and see your brother throw himself away by marrying a young lady from the country!"

"Are you really going to be married to a vulgar country girl?" asked Susan, rising.

"Yes."

"A country girl!" exclaimed Charlotte, likewise rising.

"Yes."

Susan hurried from the room without another syllable. Her face was burning crimson.

Charlotte followed her in extreme haste.

"Good-bye!" shouted Caleb, after them.

They responded by a vigorous slam of the door only.

"Now they shall be cured of this nonsense," soliloquized Caleb, "and the sooner the better. They know nothing as yet of the name of my wife—how odd that name sounds to me, to be sure!—and I won't enlighten them."

And Caleb was as good as his word. Perhaps it was a month after this very delightful incident, or episode, that the two Misses Calkins while sitting together in their parlor, one afternoon, heard the door-bell ring, and saw a boy deliver a billet-doux to the girl who answered the bell-pull.

It was an invitation for the two sisters to attend a social party at the house of Miss Mary Broad, on the following Thursday evening. Such delight as they were in, can only be conceived by those who are in similar social circumstances. They tried to recall the few times when they had been thrown into the society of Miss Broad; and thought of the trifling attentions she had ever vouchsafed to them on such occasions. They felt sure that their prospects were now looking up, even in spite of the ignominy their brother had incurred in the house of Mary Broad!—it was across the threshold of the best society in town.

Thursday evening ushered them into the brilliantly lighted parlors of Miss Broad, to whom they lost no time in paying most obsequious attention. Their eyes were dazzled with the brilliancy of the scene. It was vastly more than they had dared to hope; and the sisters Calkins were most sanguine girls, too.

They moved about in the crowds, almost unnoticed and unknown. Yet they were not the persons to stand long upon such trifles as that. They introduced themselves. They abhorred proflundness, so they said; and the other extreme was the one they adopted.

"There's Caleb!" exclaimed Charlotte.

"Well done!" replied Susan.

"I didn't know he was to be here!"

"Not I," said Susan. "I wonder how that happened?"

Caleb was there, and alone just at the moment they spied him. Their eyes were drawn from him, however by the sight of a most lovely female, who had just then passed them, leaning on the arm of Miss Mary Broad. Both were accompanied by a gentleman unknown to them. They remarked the uncommon beauty of the stranger lady, and simultaneously wondered that she received very much of the attention of all parties, and were not a little chagrined to see their own brother Caleb conversing with her with quite a confidential air. They wondered how he could be acquainted with her; and a thousand times envied him his privilege. If the Misses Calkins were apt to be taken, as people say, with anything, it was with new and pretty faces. Caleb knew it, and enjoyed their feverishness to the utmost. He underwent no little exertion, too, in shunning contact with them during the whole evening. At midnight, or not very far from that hour, Caleb entered the parlor of his own residence. His sisters were already there, discussing the evening's experience.

"Caleb!" protested Susan, in a very tender and grief-stricken tone, when he opened the door.

"Well, what?" asked he, seating himself.

"Why couldn't you show your sisters—your own sisters—a little attention, this evening? There we know nobody; and you were enjoying yourself with Mary Broad and her friend?"

"Who was that lady?" interrupted Charlotte.

"Yes, who was she?" echoed Susan.

"I believe she is a very intimate friend of Miss Mary's," replied Caleb, "who is at present visiting there."

"But where is she from? and what is her name?" persisted Susan.

"She is from the country, girls," said Caleb, triumphantly. "Her name is Martha Allen. And in less than a month she will be Mrs. Caleb Calkins!"

## Historical.

### MEMOIR OF RHODE ISLAND 1665.

The King's Commissioner's order to the Justices of Rhode Island.

"Whereas by the authority given us by his sacred Majesty our dread sovereign, to provide for the peace and safety of all his colonies here in America, and in a more especial manner for that part of it called the Narragansett country, and by his Majesty's command, now to be called the King's Province: We did by commission under our hands and seals dated at Patungskoe, March the twentieth, 1664, appoint, authorize, and in his Majesty's name requir Benedict Arnold, Wm. Brenton, esqrs, John Coggeshall, James Barker, Joseph Clarke, William Field, Thomas Olney, Roger Williams, William Baulston, John Sanford, Randal Holden, Walter Todd, John Porter and John Green, gentlemen, to exercise power and authority of Justices of the Peace, or magistrates throughout the whole compass of this his Majesty's Province, and to do whatever they think best for the peace and safety of the said Province, and as near as they can to the English laws, till his Majesty's pleasure be farther known therein. And in matters of greater consequence, any seven of them, whereof the governor or deputy-governor shall be one, shall be a court to determine any business. Our intent and meaning was, and is, that the said commission should be no longer in force than until the third of May next: And that then, and thence forward, the governor and deputy-governor, and all the assistants for the time being of his Majesty's Colony of Rhode Island, &c., shall be Justices of the Peace; and therefore by the power given us from his Majesty, we order and appoint the governor and deputy-governor, and all the assistants of the said colony, for the time, to be and to exercise the authority of Justices of the Peace, in this the King's Province, and to do whatever they think best for the peace and safety of the said Province, and as near as they can to the English laws, till therein: and in matters of greater consequence, any seven of them, whereof the governor or deputy-governor shall be one, shall be a court to determine any business.

Given under our hands and seals at Warwick, April 8th, 1665.

ROBERT CARR, Seale.

GEORGE CARTWRIGHT, Seale.

SAMUEL MAVERICK, Seale.

Acts and orders of the General Assembly sitting at Newport, May 3d, 1665.

The governor, deputy-governor, and Assistants present.

The governor chosen Moderator.

Joseph Torrey, Clerk of the Assembly.

Deputies.

Newport.—John Clarke, John Gard, Jno. Craighton, Edward Smith, John Gould, Wm. Weeden.

Providence.—Wm. Carpenter, Zachary Rhodes, James Ashton, Henry Brown.

Portsmouth.—Samuel Wilbore, John Briggs, Robert Hazard, Philip Sherman.

Warwick.—Sam'l Gorton, Jno. Weekes, Richard Carder, Edmund Calverly.

Black-Island.—James Sands, Thomas Terry.

By Election.—Benedict Arnold, Governor; Wm. Brenton, Deputy-Governor.

Assistants.—John Gard, James Barker, Edward Smith, Wm. Carpenter, Arthur Peuser, John Brown, Wm. Baulston, Sam'l Wilbore, Randal Holden, John Greene.

Joseph Torrey, Recorder; James Rodgers, Sergeant; John Coggeshall Treasurer; John Easton, Attorney; Wm. Dyre, Solicitor.

A number of private petitions were preferred to the King's commissioners, who sustained the jurisdiction of them, but in most cases referred the petitioners to the General Assembly, who disposed of most of the cases, but some were again returned by the Assembly to the commissioners, stating as a reason for so doing, that the commissioners being strangers to the parties could award justice in a more ample and satisfactory manner.

Proposition to the General Assembly by the King's Commissioners.

Whereas the will and pleasure of his Royal Majesty, our Sovereign Lord the King, is declared unto this Assembly, under the hands of his honorable commissioners and here presented by the governor, consisting of five pettioklars, being as follows, and recorded in the general records by order of the General Assembly.

1st. It is his Majesty's will and pleasure, that all householders inhabiting this colony take the oath of allegiance, and the administration of justice be in his Majesty's name.

2d. That all men of competent estates and civil conversation who acknowledge and are obedient to the civil magistrate, shall be admitted freemen of this colony upon their express desire therein declared to the General Assembly, either by themselves with sufficient testimony of their fitness and qualifications, as shall by the Assembly be deemed satisfactory; or if by the chiefe officer of the town or towns where they live, they be proposed and declared as aforesaid, and that none shall have admission to vote for public officers or deputies, or enjoy any privilege of freemen till admitted by the Assembly as aforesaid and their names recorded in the General Records of this colony.

And further, as to the third proposal, wherein his most royal Majesty's gracious tenderness to differing opinions in religious matters is declared.

To be continued.

3d. That all men and women of orthodox opinion, competent knowledge, and civil lives, who acknowledge and are obedient to the civil magistrate, and are not scandalous, may be admitted to the Sacrament of the Lord's supper, and their children to baptism, if they desire it, either by admitting them into the congregations already gathered, or permitting them to gather themselves into such congregations where they may enjoy the benefit of the sacrament, and that difference in opinion may not break the bands of peace and charity.

4th. That all laws, and expressions in laws, derogatory to his Majesty, if any such have been made in those late troublesome times, may be repealed, altered, or taken off.

5th. That this colony be put in such a posture of defence, that if there should be any invasion upon this island, or elsewhere in this colony (which God forbid) you may in some measure be in a readiness to defend yourselves, or if need be to relieve your neighbours, according to the power given you by the king in your charter and to use in th—commission and instruction.

To the governor, or deputy-governor, assistants and freemen of the Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations.

ROBERT CARR, GEORGE CARTWRIGHT.

Whereupon and in a deep sense of his Majesty's most royal and wonderful grace and favour, more particularly, and at large expressed in his gracious letters patents, lately given and granted unto this colony, in which is expressed and declared his Majesty's especial and tender care and indulgence, extended to tender conscience differing in matters of religious worship and concerns, and more especially in matters of forms of oaths and ceremonies or circumstances relating thereto, giving and granting to this corporation, power to give and take such engagements as they shall think fit, being ordered by the General Assembly of this colony, not contrary to, but as near the laws and the place will admit, considering therein the liberty of conscience therein granted.

The Assembly with one consent, acknowledge with all humble thankfulness, the most tender respect and care by his Royal Majesty expressed in the said Royal charter, as also in these five proposals for the good and welfare of this his Majesty's colony, and therefore in all cheerful obedience to, and observation of the premises, and therein minding the privilege granted to tender consciences, do in the first place order and declare, That whereas in this colony it hath been always accounted and granted a liberty to such as make a scruple of swearing and taking an oath. That instead thereof they shall engage under the penalty of false swearing, though they swear not in public engagement, as well as if they did swear, that therefore this most loyal and reasonable engagement be given by all men capable, within this jurisdiction, for their allegiance to the king.

"The form of which engagement shall be as followeth—You A. B. solemnly and sincerely engage true and faithful allegiance unto his Majesty, Charles the Second, king of England, his heirs and successors to beare, and due obedience unto the laws established from time to time in this jurisdiction to yeelde, unto the utmost of your power according to the privilege by his said Majesty granted in religious and civil concerns to this colony in the charter, which said engagement you make under the peril and penalty of perjury."

The Assembly then go on to pass an act requiring all to take the engagement before the next meeting of the General Assembly, and fix the penalties and disabilities for non-compliance.

"And further this Assembly in a due sense of his Majesty's gracious favour unto this colony, in the second of those



# Newport Mercury.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 23, 1856.

Our attention has been so much taken up with the scenes actually going on at the seat of war in the East, that we entirely overlook the historical interest attached to the spot selected for the contest. We think only of the present effort for supremacy in the Crimea, without referring to the fact that since the time it was inhabited by the ancient Scythian and Greek colonies, it has been conquered and devastated by more than seventy different nations. Here the Venetians and Genoese gave way before the Turks; and here, at last, the Turks were obliged to acknowledge the superiority of the Russians. The latter power has held supreme control of the straits since 1783, and as yet we see no prospect of their resigning it to the allied armies. Every spot where the war is now going on is associated with some historical event, and the towns that have been captured or brought under the flag of the enemy have repeatedly known scenes of blood and strife. The earth is, in fact, one vast mausoleum, where the remains of ancient temples, mosques and palaces, reward the antiquarian's researches, and no spot that has ever received the spade is richer in medals and curious coins.

Kertch is the ancient Pantaportus. From this port the imaginary ANACHARSIS is supposed to have embarked on his voyage to Greece. Here stood the ancient temple of ESCULAPUS, and it was on this spot that the Bosphorians kings established their seat. Here METRABATES had his residence, and it was from the precipice above the city that he cast his son XANTHUS into the sea. Here was the site of the ancient temple of DIANA, in which TRIPHTERIS was priestess; and here EURIPIDES places the scene of the bloody sacrifice of DIANA, the arrival of ORESTES and PYLADUS, and their recognition of the intended victim. But Kertch has long since fallen from its greatness. The town was much reduced when it fell into the hands of the Russians; subsequently efforts were made to improve its commerce. The principal inhabitants are Jews, who carry on the trade.

Kaffa, the Feodosia of the ancients, was at one time known as Little Constantinople. The soil is filled with the ruins of the Bosphorian Empire, and from this point to Arsat, on the Sea of Anof, extended the boundary line of the Bosphorians, constructed by ANAXER, and measuring forty-five miles in length, with sixty towers. The distance, in reality, is not so great, but the oblique direction of the wall makes it equal to the record of the ancients. The remains are yet visible, and up to the time of the present war there was still a little trade carried on at this port.

Atlar is the Tartar name of what is now known as Sevastopol, and implies "White Rocks." The present name was given to the port in the time of CATHERINE II. This was the Crimea of Strabo, and was always a place of commercial enterprise; but for half a century the Crimea has not furnished timber enough for ship-building, and the supply has been kept up by means of the Dolapier.

Inkermann means "the town of Caverns," and in times past has been celebrated. These caverns, or openings in the rocks, were sculptured into divers architectural forms, and the remains of many of them together occupy the entire side of the mountain, consisting of what was once used as magazines, cells, convents, &c. The air is wholesome during the summer and autumn months; and this, indeed, is the case with the whole southern portion of the peninsula.

Balaklava is from the Genoese, "Bella Clara," or beautiful port. In many particulars its harbor has been described. Above the town, if such a collection of miserable huts can be called such, are the immense ruins of what was once a Genoese fortress on a magnificent site; bearing on its outer walls the arms of Genoa. The streets of Balaklava are like those of Pompeii, and are paved in the same way, substituting marble for lava. The mountain range on the southern coast begins at this point and extends to the westward. The upper strata, notwithstanding the extreme elevation, is composed of limestone, while towards the west, black sand predominates. The geological formations of the Crimea are all opposed to those on either side of the peninsula. The shore of the harbor of Balaklava is covered with a gold-colored sand, consisting of minute particles of mica, beautiful to the eye and used as writing sand.

Bakhchisarai—a palace situated in a garden—was once the Tatar capital and residence of the Khan. It was formerly very attractive, but when it fell into the hands of the Russians, they destroyed two-thirds of the place, laying waste the lake, cutting down the trees, destroying public buildings and aqueducts, robbing the people, and perpetrating such barbarities as are not to be mentioned. The town is built on the craggy sides of a precipitous fosse, formed by two mountains.

Karsouba—Black-water market, the name of a river and a place of barter—was the appointed rendezvous in any crisis among the Tatars, and here was held the last council against the Khan. On the summit there is a large view of the peninsula can be obtained. From Mt. Tchaugoyrsk, also, the whole Crimea can be seen, the view extending even beyond Porcupo. Two-thirds of the country seen from this point presents a dreary wilderness, or one grand steppe, consisting of calcareous deposits, containing remains of marine animals, with here and there small rising above the plain. It is only in the southern portion that one sees signs of cultivation. Between Kertch and Kaffa, the country is a flat common, covered with grass and heath; the soil showing everywhere neglect, but capable of high cultivation. In winter the soil peels off in large clods, and adheres to the wheels all they are clogged, and it is the same difficulty in transportation that has been so much complained of between Balaklava and the camp.

The Valley of Balaklava, more than ten miles in length and six in breadth, is under high cultivation. Protected from high winds, irrigated by clear streams from the hills, vegetation of all kinds grows spontaneously, and the small houses of the inhabitants are completely buried beneath the foliage of groves and vines. And in the vicinity of Solovka, the hill of the fountain—the country has also been described as a terrestrial paradise. But all over the Crimea verdure and insect life swarm. To attempt to describe the beauty of the view from the summit of the hill is to do the poet's office. The air is cool and pure, and the view of the sea and the mountains is beyond all calculation. Among the most formidable are the Taurus, Caucasus, Caucasus, Caucasus, Caucasus, and Caucasus. While the terrain is so beautiful, and the climate so healthy, the natives here with their after a season, the mountain-dwelling are so numerous and almost driven wild by their continued attacks.

The Patterson *Guardian* states that the Pacific Falls are now entirely frozen over. The spray and mist had settled and frozen upon the outer edge of the rocks until the ice finally completely closed the gap. The most extraordinary circumstance, says the *Guardian*, is the entire cessation of all noise at the chutes, the distant fall of water at the dam being all that is heard, as you stand there, whether there is a rushing river. The ice extends above the falls to the "still water," and the liquid element is not again seen till it appears as black water beyond the dam below. One could hardly think it possible to have the place so quiet, while the mad water is plunging so furiously underneath.

What an incentive to studious youth is the life of WASHINGTON. He was born at Stratford, in Branford, 1732, a son of a soldier, and overcoming the perplexities of indigent obscurity, he qualified himself to instruct the commonwealth of Italy and to preside over the amphitheatres of Rome. He was stationed at Trieste by an Italian family, who really hoped to rob him of some valuable article that he had received on the visit to the Court of Vienna.

On Sunday last we had a very heavy blow from the northwest, with a slight fall of snow. On Monday, also, it blew very heavily. To the eastward they had much more, which drifted into the streets, impeding the progress of many of the railroad trains. The train that left Boston the next morning, at eight and a half o'clock, was delayed at Framingham, at three o'clock, and did not start until Tuesday morning. It was a good deal of ice in the Bay, and in the inner harbor it was collected, every tide bringing it out of the river and leaving it in the basin. We have but one word of consolation to offer to our readers—the satisfaction of knowing that we are not near the close of February and not in the middle of December. It is like extracting warmth out of an icicle, but it is all that we can afford these pinching times. Since Tuesday the weather has moderated materially, and on Thursday and Friday there was a very general thaw.

On Thursday evening, Rev. Dr. Osborne, of New York, delivered one of the finest lectures of the course before the Mechanics' Association, on the Poetics of Mechanism, treating his audience to an elaborate and beautiful dissertation on the ideal and practical application of the mechanic arts. It was certainly very entertaining and instructive, and the subject was so admirably adapted for a lecture before a Mechanics' Association. The house was crowded in every part, and the walls of the hall were festively decorated with flags and pictures, in anticipation of the ball that came off there last evening.

The next lecture of the course will be delivered on Thursday evening, the 25th inst., by Rev. Dr. Briggs, of Providence—an announcement that promises much.

Every school-boy remembers the thrilling tale of the house of the late HANNAH DENTON, captured by the Indians at Haverhill, on the 10th of March, 1837. We learn from the *Concord Patriot* that preparations had been made for a grand celebration and levee at Haverhill on Thursday and Friday of this week, and a meeting of the descendants of Mrs. Denton, the proceeds of which are to be applied towards the erection of a monument to that heroic woman, on the spot where the house stood when she was captured. The whole terrible tragedy would be represented by tableaux and the exhibition would consist of every remaining relic of her family that could be obtained. The land where the house stood has been secured by the association formed for the erection of the monument.

The Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, in New York, states in its annual report that the whole number of children received at the House of Refuge since its opening in 1825, is six thousand, six hundred and seven. On the first of January there were over four hundred and ninety in the institution. The children received, varied in age from seven to eighteen years. Of the children received by the society the parents of one-half are Irish. The management of the children is very properly cared for, and they are daily engaged in study and the performance of some manual labor, chiefly in the manufacture of shoes, wire-work, casing chair seats, &c.

The Democratic State Convention which assembled in Providence on Thursday last made the following nominations:

Governor—AMERICK V. POTTER, of Providence.  
Lieut. Governor—DUNCAN C. FELL, of Newport.  
Secretary of State—ASA POTTER, of South Kings town.  
Attorney General—NATHAN PORTER, of Cranston.  
General Treasurer—EDWIN WILDER, of Newport.

The Black Islanders say that never within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant" has so much ice been seen on the shores of their "island home." On the west side, on Thursday, it extended a distance of half a mile from land—drift ice, from Long Island Sound, that had touched, grounded, and then floated a heavy cake. From the hills fields of ice to sea.

A new Temperance Society has been formed in this city, which is to be conducted after the old style of the Washington Total Abstinence Society. The following are the officers:

Samuel T. Hopkins, President; John Allen, Vice President; J. S. Elder, Secretary; Wm. B. Swan, Treasurer.

Directors—1st Ward, John Pratt; 2d, John T. Brown; 3d, W. M. Mumford; 4th, Wm. H. Duffie; 5th, Charles B. Burdick.

Our thanks are due to the Managers of the Washington Fair, which came off last evening at Aqueduct Hall, and to the Newport Artillery Company, for their polite invitation to their Social Assembly. Both halls were beautifully decorated for the occasion, and we hope that all who participated in the festive enjoyed the dance, the supper, and the social chat.

PROCESSES FOR THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—We are assured by one who has tried the experiment, that potatoes, though frozen over so hard, as put into boiling water without washing in cold, are as sweet and as palatable as though the frost had not touched them. Inasmuch as frozen potatoes are so plentiful just now, this is a fact worth knowing.

This is not new to us. We saw the experiment successfully tried years ago.

The citizens of Montreal are determined to have bread of full weight, and to effect this the police are authorized to seize all that falls short of the standard. The law was carried into effect recently, and one hundred and ninety loaves were seized, and by the Chief of Police distributed among the various charitable institutions of the city.

We learn that the Relief Society has collected the sum of eight hundred dollars, for general distribution to the destitute, all of which sum, with the exception of one hundred dollars given by Mr. W. H. Bland, of New York, son of Oliver Bland, Esq., of this city, was subscribed by our citizens.

We would call the attention of the public to an advertisement of E. C. HARRISON in another column, if they want to buy good cheap for cash, their only mode or made up to order, as he is determined to show up the unfair stock, at some price or other, as soon as possible.

The *Advertiser* of Science & Art states the expenses of the British Museum, for the past year, to have been over fifty-nine thousand pounds sterling, and the estimate for the current year is upwards of fifty-six thousand.

We understand that Mr. W. W. HAZARD has concluded a contract with Mr. STURGES, of New York, for the erection of a first-class hotel to be located in the next lot out of the Bellevue House, and to be finished by the last of June.

The monthly Atlantic, from Liverpool for New York, is now in the fourteenth day, and fully due. Her crew will be on the 15th inst., four days later than that brought by the *Canada*, just arrived at Boston.

## City Council.

NEWPORT, February 19, 1855.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—Present his Honor the Mayor, Aldermen Braman, Stevens, Alliman, and Curtis.

Finance report No. 16, recommending bills to the amount of \$22,046 to be paid from city treasury, passed.

Report of committee on donation to the city of \$2000 from Hon. David Sears, was read, received and approved, and the same is ordered to be recorded with the deed of title, in the several books.

The committee on petition of Charles Spooner for location of slaughter house, reported favorably thereon, and a resolution was passed granting the location of the same.

The committee on Fry fund reported that the sum of \$100 had been expended in fuel for the poor.

Upon it report of the committee to whom was referred the petition of Philip Caswell and others, recommending that the prayer of said petition be granted. Thereupon it is

Resolved, That the prayer of said petitioners be granted, and that the Street Commissioner be authorized to lay out said street through the Powder-house lot, so-called, belonging to the city, and have a suitable fence placed on each side of said street upon the lands belonging to the city. Passed.

Communication and resolution for building reservoir, concurred.

Several bills were received and referred.

Res. passed on 15th March at 9 o'clock, A. M., to purge the list of voters.

GOSWOLD COUNCIL.—Present R. J. Taylor, Esq., President, and Messrs. P. W. Stevens, Southwick, B. H. Stevens, Coggeshall, French, Weaver, Hazard and H. H.

Report of the committee to receive the donation of \$5000, concurred in.

Finance report No. 16 concurred in.

At a meeting of the Board of Fire Wards Feb. 16, 1855.

Voted, To request the Hon. City Council to build two reservoirs, viz: one in Mill Street on the land now owned by the School Committee, and one at the Redwood Library yard.

A true copy.

RES. PASSED, 23d Clerk.

Resolved, That there be two reservoirs built, viz: one in Mill Street and one in the Redwood Library yard, agreeably to the above report of the Board of Fire Wards, to be under the direction of

Res. received and referred to committee on Fire Department.

Report on petition of Philip Caswell, Jr., for opening a road, non-concurred in.

Report of Overseer of Poor in relation to Mrs. Palmer, read and received.

Sundry bills concurred in.

Adjourned to March 4, at 8 o'clock P. M.

The London Times has a remarkable article upon the difficulties between the United States and England, in relation to Central America, and practically concedes that the American interpretation of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty is just. It recommends the abandonment of British pretensions in that quarter. The Times says:

"Let us take our stand on the literal construction of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, which accomplishes for us all that we can reasonably desire in Central America. Let us frankly give up our questionable right to the Mosquito protectorate and the Island of Roatan, and by way of delivering ourselves of the whole embarrassment at once and forever, throw the worthless settlement of Balize into the bargain. In return, let us call upon the American Government not only to observe its portion of the treaty, in respect of which we have hitherto had nothing to complain, but also to root out the gang of pirates and murderers who have taken forcible possession of the State of Nicaragua, and hold it in defiance of the will of both countries. Such an example would do more to carry out the intention of the treaty than any amount of protection to drunken savages or occupation of worthless islands."

MULATTOS.—The census of 1850 shows that one-fourth of the colored people of the North and one-thirtieth of the slave population are mulattoes, or had more or less white blood; while of the 195,000 colored people of the free states, over 56,500 are mulattoes. In Ohio, more than half of the colored population are mulattoes, or 90 per cent. are mulattoes; in Indiana, over 85 per cent.; in Wisconsin, over 80 per cent.; in Michigan, 76 per cent.; in New Hampshire, 54 per cent.; in Maine, 51 per cent.; in Pennsylvania, 54 per cent.; 40 per cent.; in Massachusetts, 34 per cent.; in Connecticut, 30 per cent.; in Rhode Island, 24 per cent.; in New York 19 per cent., and in New Jersey, 18 per cent. In only one slave state do the mulattoes form 16 per cent. of the whole number of slaves, and in only three do they amount to 10 per cent.

THE LOSS OF OUR STEAMSHIPS.—Since 1853, twelve steamships, lost at sea, have cost 1250 human lives and \$7,250,000 of property.

The "Independence" sank with 120 lives in the Pacific, and the Tennessee and the St. Louis followed, total wrecks. The Humboldt and the San Francisco were wrecked in the Atlantic the same year.—The Franklin, City of Philadelphia, and Yankin Blade, fall in the catalogue of 1854. City of Glasgow with 480 lives. The Arctic with hundreds more, precious lives, were the crowning catastrophes of that year.

In 1855, we have the sinking of the North Carolina, and the stranding of the Golden Age, which last, however, was saved and repaired.—*Hunt's Merchant's Magazine.*

A GREAT COUNTRY.—An innocent and pure-minded Jonathan, in a warm argument with John Bull, on our National institutions, was endeavoring to floor his antagonist, who had sneeringly remarked that "fortunately the Americans couldn't go farther westward than the Pacific shore." The Yankee searched his pregnant brain for an instant, and triumphantly replied, "Why, good gracious! they're already leveling the Rocky Mountains, and carting the dirt out West! I had a letter last week from my cousin, who is living two hundred miles west of the Pacific shore—in mid-air land!"

SKATING VS. RUNNING.—A match against time came off on the morning of the 17th, on the Duchess's Pond, Supleston, over a distance of 300 yards, determined by two flags, placed one hundred yards apart, the skater and runner to pass round the flags twice. The skater accomplished his task in a graceful and masterly style in 42 seconds; the runner on the land taking 49 seconds; thus losing by 7 seconds.

BRITISH MERCURY.

A committee of the Irish Emigrant Convention at Buffalo, reported that they had ascertained that in ten of the oldest States in the Union, there is on deposit upwards of \$40,000,000 of surplus earnings of Irish labor.

MONEY is beginning to offer at very low figures. Loans at 4 are being paid off and it is difficult to place any at 6 on call.—Some sums have been offered at four per cent.—*N. Y. Post, 16th.*

A learned physician has extracted a powerful tonic from sausages containing the original bark. He very properly calls it "The Sausage of Cinchona."

Tuckers and Fields, Boston, are now disposing of the *Atlantic* thousand of Long-fellow's *Hawthorne*.

DEATH OF HARMAN SARGENT.—An Excellent Life.—The Warren (R.I.) Telegraph of Saturday states that Captain Harman Sargent, of that town, mate of the brig Fornax, formerly of that port, was washed overboard from that vessel on the night of the 23d ult., and lost. He was much respected as a worthy and upright citizen and shipmaster. He leaves a wife and seven children to mourn his loss.

Capt. S. was born at Altona, in Lower Saxony, in the year 1796. At the age of 14, to escape the conscription of Napoleon, his mother hid him and a younger brother, and during the night they made their escape afterwards reaching the Baltic, where, taking an open boat, both escaped to Sweden. An older brother was taken, and sent in the army to Russia. From Sweden he went to England, and was in the service of Great Britain. During the last war with this country, he was put on board the sloop-of-war Sylph; and near the close of the war this vessel was wrecked during a violent snow storm, on Long Island, near Southampton. He, with six others, were all that were saved out of a company of 132 persons. On landing on the beach he was taken prisoner and carried to New York, where he was claimed by the Danish Consul and released. He then went a voyage or two to New Orleans, and repaired to Providence, from which port he made several voyages to the East Indies and other parts of the world. The brig Eagle having put into Warren, one winter, on account of the ice at Providence, she was frozen up for a long time, Capt. S. being kept on board as ship keeper. Forming acquaintances there at that time, he finally adopted the place as his home.

The meeting of the creditors of the Jerome Company and of P. T. Barnum, at New-Haven on Monday night last, resulted in a recommendation to the Jerome Company to go into liquidation. They have done so. Mr. Barnum has also made an assignment. The indebtedness of the Jerome Company is \$560,000. There is a prevailing opinion that very little will be realized by the creditors. Mr. Chauncey B. Jerome, the original founder of the Company, has also gone into bankruptcy. Two appointments of assignees have been made for Mr. Barnum—one in New-Haven and the other in Bridgeport—by the action of the creditors, who forced Mr. B. into bankruptcy. The courts must decide which assignees are legally appointed.—It is understood that Barnum is entirely ruined, and that the Jerome creditors will get but a small dividend from his estate. His property in Connecticut is mortgaged for over \$300,000, and the Museum buildings belong to the estate of F. Olmsted deceased. The lease, which is valuable has belonged to Mrs. Barnum for many years.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—The Worcester Spy states that in September, 1855, while at play, George L. Tenney, then about eleven years of age, son of Daniel A. Tenney of Sutton, trod on some broken glass, crushing a piece to pieces in the hollow of his foot. Subsequently it was supposed to have been entirely extracted, and the sore healed up. Some few months after this, the boy's health began to decline and he has occasionally since suffered from severe pains in the foot and leg, for which no relief could be found. A few days since a small sore appeared upon his foot, and upon examination a piece of glass was discovered, forcing itself to the surface, which the lad's father extracted with a pair of nippers. It proved to be seven-eighths of an inch in length, and shape, "hook-like, and of irregular form, the distance of about three and a half inches from the spot where it entered four years ago. The boy's health has rapidly improved.

CANNIBALS CHASTISED.—*Pennsylvania Feb. 5.*—The U. S. sloop-of-war John Adams, E. B. Boutwell, commander, arrived at this port early on Sunday morning, from Feejee Islands, via Valparaiso. The John Adams left this port in July, bound to the Feejee Islands, to inquire into and seek reparation for many cruelties committed by the natives, and to demand indemnity for the plunder of several American ships trading and fishing on the Feejeean Archipelago. During the cruising of the John Adams in the Feejee group of islands, five sharp engagements took place between her crew and the cannibals of Polynesia. Five of their largest towns were burnt, and all the houses therein reduced to ashes. An important treaty was also ratified between Commander Boutwell and Tui Vite or Thokamban, the king of Feejee, on behalf of the American Government.

FROM WASHINGTON.—A Washington correspondent of the Herald telegraphs on the 18th:—Gov. Shannon left this afternoon for Kansas. He will travel night and day until he reaches Shawnee Mission. The President desired him to arrive there before the State Legislature assembled at Topeka on the 4th of March next. He has full power I understand, to arrest the members of that Legislature. Its meeting is deemed by powers that be an overt act, and as such deserving of severe punishment. If he carries out his instructions, it is thought by gentlemen now here, who are residents of Kansas, that there will be a collision between the federal authorities and the free state men."

ARRIVAL OF GOV. STEVENS FROM THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—It seems that all the rumors in relation to the massacre of Gov. Stevens and party in the Indian country are without foundation. According to The Oregonian, Gov. Stevens of Washington Territory had arrived at the camp of the Oregon Mounted Volunteers, and made a speech to the regiment, in which he avowed his determination to urge a continuance of the war until every hostile Indian is subdued and a lasting peace acquired, so that treaty stipulation would in all time be observed.

PUBLIC LANDS.—A report prepared at the general land office shows the amount of territory subject to the act of August, 1854, to graduate and reduce the price of public lands to actual settlers and cultivators. Of the first class, one dollar an acre, there are 18,768,759 acres; 2d, 75 cents an acre—15,654,148 acres; 3d, 50 cents an acre—11,549,929 acres; 4th 25 cents an acre—6,455,227 acres; 5th 12 1-2 cents an acre—25,114,353 acres.

There are manufactured annually in Massachusetts 21,510,064 pairs of boots and shoes, the value of which is \$12,180,810. The number of persons employed is 34,500, of whom 15,105 are males and 19,395 females. Lynn is the town most largely engaged in the business, the number of persons employed there being 15,566, and the number of pairs manufactured, 9,275,593. These are large figures.

A Western editor announces the arrival of a twelfth responsibility at his house, and makes the following appeal thereafter:—More subscribers wanted at this office."

COL. FREMONT'S LAND CASE.—*New York Feb. 16.*—A Tribune correspondent telegraphs: Notwithstanding the late favorable decision of the Supreme Court and the understood inclination of the Secretary of the Interior, when the Commissioner of the Land Office came to issue the patent of Col. Fremont, two conditions were inserted, which virtually destroyed its whole value, one a reservation in favor of the rights of third parties, and the other a reservation of the gold mines to the government. These points cover the practical value of the government.

Col. Fremont declined to receive the patent with these limitations, which had no sanction of law, and as the Commissioner of the Land Office refused to comply in the proper form, the whole matter was carried before the President directly. He decided this morning that the patent should issue according to the regular usage and divested of the unauthorized restrictions. Unless some final obstacle be started, the case may be considered closed.

MAN DROWNED.—A man named Patrick Sullivan, boarding with Daniel Sullivan, in Tiverton, was found drowned in the watering place leading into the stream, near the Upper Dam, adjacent to Hartwell's, on Tuesday morning. He had lately been at work for Mr. Robert Cook, in cutting ice. He left home on the night of Sunday, a little past 9 o'clock, and cries of distress were heard from the place where he was found about two hours later. It is supposed that in passing along, he incautiously walked into the watering place, and thus met his death. He had been drinking. Coroner Richmond Davol held an inquest on the body, yesterday. Col. Sisson being foreman of the jury. The verdict of the jury was—or would be—*Accidentally drowned.*

Fall River News.

MILITIA OF THE UNITED STATES.—A document from the War Department, which was laid before the House of Representatives on Thursday, states that the militia in the states and territories amounts to the large aggregate of 2,478,725 men. This does not embrace the militia of the state of Iowa, or of the territories of Oregon, Washington, Nebraska, Kansas and New Mexico, from which no official returns have been received. This return does not appear to be complete, as the estimates of the force of some of the states are based upon data furnished several years since, in one instance—that of Delaware—as far back as 1827. The militia force of the District of Columbia is given for the year 1852, and is stated at 8201.

THE GRAVE OF MADISON.—The Senate of Virginia has unanimously passed a bill, providing for the erection of a plain tombstone of granite or marble, over the grave of James Madison. The bill appropriates the small sum of \$500 for a stone, with the following inscription: "JAMES MADISON, born March 5, 1751, (O. S.) died 28th June, 1836. Virginia marks with sincere affection the grave of her son, the author of the Federal Constitution, the patriot and statesman." The remains of Madison lie at his old place, Montpelier, Orange Co., Va., now owned by a Col. Scott, who is willing that the State or private friends of Madison, should expend the sum of \$500 in determining and marking his final resting place.

EARLY LOVE AND LATE MARRIAGE.—The Cincinnati Columbian relates the following: "A couple, each of whom was over seventy years of age, were a night or two of our principal hotels. They had been lovers in the spring time of life—but circumstances parted them. Each married, raised a family, lost a mate, and then remarried; and finally, the second mate and met their first love, they concluded to 'travel down the hill of life together and sleep together at its foot.' They were both frail, tottering and white-headed—but the fire of love still burnt brightly in their hearts."

It is stated that there is kept at the New York post office a list of cashiers of the banks in the United States. When letters are directed to that city to cashiers who do not reside there, the list is consulted, the error corrected, and the letter duly forwarded to its proper destination. It appears from this list that no less than 503 letters for cashiers have been misdirected to New York since January 1, 1854, all of which were redirected and forwarded to their proper address. What a commentary on the carelessness of correspondents! all of whom, probably, charged the delay upon the post office department.—*Boston Post.*

MOUNT VERNON.—A communication from Gov. Wise was read before the Virginia Legislature on Monday, containing a proposition from Mr. Lewis W. Washington to present in perpetuity, to the State of Virginia, the sites of the birthplace of George Washington, and of the home and graves of his progenitors in America, provided the State shall cause these places to be permanently enclosed, and shall mark the same by suitable tablets to commemorate those notable spots. The communication was referred to a select committee.

MR. MACAULAY.—Mr. Macaulay (the eloquent historian, poet, essayist, and orator) has retired from Parliament. In his farewell address to the electors of Edinburgh, he alludes to his delicate state of health, and says that the experience of the last two years has convinced him that he cannot reasonably expect to be ever again capable of performing, even in an imperfect manner, those duties which the public has a right to expect from every member of the House of Commons.

CALL ACCEPTED.—Rev. F. A. Hedge, D.D., of Providence, R. I. has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Parish in Brookline, Mass., to become the pastor. The salary is \$2000, and a parsonage house is also provided.

Boston Transcript.

In parting with Dr. Hedge the society will lose a faithful pastor and eloquent preacher, and the city one of the most accomplished scholars.—*Proc. Journal.*

A MILE OF TRIMMING.—A writer in a New York paper speaks of a lady who wears upon one dress a full mile of fringe trimming! Another young lady in New York has adorned a single dress with seven hundred and fifty yards of ribbon! Truly, this is carrying extravagance in dress to great lengths!

PROGRESS OF WOMAN'S RIGHTS.—The lower branch of the Nebraska Legislature have passed a bill giving to women the right to vote.

DEATH OF AN ACTRESS.—Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz, the authoress, died at Marianna, Fla., Feb. 11.

Our American tonnage is 5,400,000 tons and would make a fleet of 5,400 ships of 1,000 tons each.

## LATER FROM EUROPE.

The Cunard steamship Canada, from Liverpool 2d inst., for Boston, reached Halifax on the 17th.

GREAT BRITAIN.—On Thursday, January 31st, the Queen opened Parliament with the usual ceremonies. The persons most noticed in the gorgeous assemblage in the House of Lords were Mr. Buchanan, in citizen's dress; the Turkish minister, because he wore a fez, and the Haysian ambassador, because of his color.

In the House of Lords, Earl Gosford moved the address, and Earl Abingdon seconded it. Earl Derby would not oppose, but considered the royal speech bare, cold and meagre, and it ought to have referred to the state of America, India and the Colonies, and to the fall of Kars. Further, in carrying out the enlistment scheme, the government, he conceived, had evaded the spirit of the municipal law of the United States, and he hoped that the apology offered would be received. He regretted however, that there was not a conciliatory paragraph introduced into the speech in reference to the subject. The whole speech, he said, was redolent of water gruel.

The Earl of Clarendon replied as follows: "I wish to take an early opportunity of referring to the state of our relations with the United States. In my opinion there can be no doubt as to the common sense view of the obligations of this Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and yet it is upon the interpretation of that treaty that a difference of opinion has arisen. In such a case correspondence is useless. I lost no time in offering to refer the whole question to the arbitration of any third power, both sides agreeing to be bound by the decision. That offer has not yet been accepted. It has been renewed, and I hope that upon further consideration the United States government will agree to it.

Lord Clarendon then goes on to say that he hopes the difficulty is susceptible of a peaceful solution, and that he does not mean any slight by making no mention of America in the Queen's speech.

The London Morning Advertiser has the following announcement: We regret to hear that at an interview which Lord Clarendon and Mr. Buchanan had together at the Foreign Office, on Tuesday, very angry words passed between them relative to the Central American question.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.—The despatches of the Russian government, completing and confirming the telegraphic announcement of the unconditional acceptance of Austria's propositions, were received at Vienna on the 22d ult., and couriers immediately conveyed them to Paris and London.

A memorandum, embodying the proposition, has been signed at Vienna, sent to Paris and London, and it is reported that the congress will meet at Paris Feb. 17; that very little time will be lost in discussion, and that the whole will be brought to a conclusion by Feb. 25. The signing of preliminaries, prior to opening the congress, now only awaits the arrival of the Turkish Plenipotentiary.

It is stated that Prussia refuses to agree to the conditions exacted by the allies preliminary to her admission into the peace conferences, and that, consequently, she will be excluded from the conference, but be invited to sign the final deed of settlement.

Baron Brunow and Count Orloff are the Russian Plenipotentiaries, assisted by Messrs. Tioff and Fenton; Lord Clarendon represents England; Marquis Dazzeio, Sardinia; Count Buol, Austria; M. Walles, France; and Mr. Pasha, Turkey. Russia is said to have made it a condition previous to the acceptance of the proposition of the allies that no indemnification should be demanded and no cession of territory required except that for rectification which being conceded, she agrees not to fortify the Aland Isles.

It is reported that Austria will forthwith propose to the Germanic Diet, to adhere to the peace preliminaries in order that the representatives of Germany may be admitted to the approaching conferences.

A Liverpool correspondent has telegraphed the main facts, and it is unnecessary to give the particulars of rumors to the effect that Russia selected Paris to slight Austria—that the Austrian Cabinet is offended thereat—that Sardinia feels a jealousy of Austrian preponderance—that Russia intends at the last moment to demand in the name of the general interests of Europe, and in accordance with Art. 5, that England be forbidden to fortify Heligoland and to restrict their ships of war in the Baltic to those required for police purposes. The Journal des Debats hints as much.

Further, that Napoleon claims as commander by the treaty of London, the sole right to conclude an armistice, which is evidently false. That Holland and other neutral powers demand a voice in the conference, and Russian preparations for war continue as actively as the allies. Iron coated floating batteries, similar to those of the defence of Cronstadt. Military Students are being invited to enter the army as officers. An abundant preparation of paper money on State securities is being provided. A forced loan of 600,000 silver roubles is being imposed on Finland for its defence. France and England do not slacken their preparations.

THE BALTIC.—Letters received to the 30th ult speak of mild weather, and the resumption, more or less, of navigation.—At Pillau, Memel, and Cuxhaven, ice was breaking up.

THE CRIMEA.—The Crimea correspondents of the English camp of January 18th reports the army healthy. No incidents except that the Russians continue to fire from the North Fort. General Gortschakoff has handed over the command to General Lobanov and issued a new valedictory to his Crimean commanders.

Jan. 19th. The Russians made an expedition over the ice to attack Keitchik, but Gen. Vivian being on the alert they retired.

ASIA MINOR.—Gen. Williams was at Tiflis, Dec. 14, being







